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Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 SAL-01 CG-00 DLOS-06
OES-06 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 PM-04 /064 W
----------032332Z 002895 /62
R 031325Z MAR 77
FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0634
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USCINCEUR
CINCUSNAVEUR
FOSIF ROTA
NOSIC SUITLAND MD
COMSIXTHFLT

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: EWWT, EG
SUBJECT: ALEXANDRIA PORT OPERATIONS

REF: 76 ALEXANDRIA 0734

1. WIND AND HIGH SEAS CLOSED ALEXANDRIA PORT ON MARCH 1 FOR ONLY THIRD TIME THIS WINTER. SECOND TIME WAS ONE DAY CLOSING JANUARY 19. ONLY MAJOR CLOSING WAS FIRST STORM OF SEASON IN LATE NOVEMBER (FIVE DAYS).

2. EXTRAORDINARILY MILD AND CALM WINTER HAS FAVORED PORT
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OPERATIONS AND MADE UNNECESSARY "PERIODIC REPORTS" PROMISED IN REFTEL. ALTHOUGH CONGESTION REMAINS PROBLEM (EVEN WITH FINE WEATHER, ABOUT FORTY SHIPS LIE AT ANCHOR EACH DAY AWAITING ENTRANCE, WITH TEN TO FOURTEEN DAY DELAY FOR GENERAL CARGO CARRIERS), PORT APPEARS TO BE OPERATING A LITTLE MORE EFFICIENTLY RECENTLY.

3. IN ADDITION TO WEATHER, VISIBLE EVIDENCE HAS BEEN (A) ATTEMPTS

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AT RATIONAL TRAFFIC CONTROL, (B) CONTINUED CLEANUP AND GRADING/ PAVING OF INNER PORT DOCKS AND STORAGE AREAS, AND (C) PHENOMENAL INCREASE IN CONTAINERIZED CARGO. LATTER CARGO HANDLING IS FAR FROM EFFICIENT BY WESTERN STANDARDS, BUT IS CONSIDERABLE IMPROVEMENT OVER OLD DAYS. WITHOUT MODERN CONTAINER PIERS AND CRANES, UNLOADING IS STILL BY SHIP'S CARGO CRANES OR MOBILE CRANES ON DOCK AND SHORE MOVEMENT BY RICKETY OLD TRUCKS OR EVEN HORSE-DRAWN DRAYS. HOWEVER, COMPACTNESS AND STACKABILITY OF CONTAINERS IS VALUABLE PLUS, AND RELATIVE SECURITY OF LOCKED STILL CONTAINERS MUST REDUCE PILFERAGE.

4. FOR AMERICAN SHIPPERS, MAJOR PROBLEM MUST REMAIN THE BUREAUCRATIC INEFFICIENCY OF GOVERNMENT SHIPPING AGENCY MONOPOLY. MASTER OF SS EXPORT COMMERCE IN PORT WEEK AGO, AND SUFFERING AGENT TROUBLES, SAID AMEXPORT LINES HAS HIRED CAPABLE AGENT TO ACT AS "OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE" BEGINNING MARCH 1. LYKES AND PRUDENTIAL HAVE EARLIER DONE SAME.

5. CONGEN REITERATES THAT ALL MAJOR AMERICAN SHIPPERS SHOULD CONSIDER THIS COURSE. ALTHOUGH BY EGYPTIAN LAW THEY MUST WORK THROUGH GOVERNMENT SHIPPING AGENCY, EVEN ONE DAY'S UNNECESSARY DELAY AT ALEXANDRIA PREVENTED BY EFFICIENT OWNER'S REP WILL UNDOUBTEDLY REPAY EXPENSE OF HIS SERVICES.
CHASE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: PORT FACILITIES
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Format: TEL
From: ALEXANDRIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770398/aaaadiug.tel
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Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Reference: 76 ALEXANDRIA 734
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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SAS ID: 3224429
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Subject: ALEXANDRIA PORT OPERATIONS
TAGS: EWWT, EG
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